

The FERC prepared this EA to address the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modifications. The original project was addressed by the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Ocean Express Pipeline Project (FEIS) issued on November 28, 2003. The modified project would use the same methodologies for deepwater construction and onshore construction. However, the landfall portion of the pipeline would be installed in a 14,000-foot tunnel instead of the two HDD segments and associated direct pipelay on the seafloor. The tunnel amendment would also incorporate minor route changes to accommodate the methodology. These minor route changes would result in a slight decrease in the length of the landfall portion and thus the overall project length.

Approximately 95 percent of the original project analyzed in the FEIS is relatively unchanged, with the exception of the 2-inch increase in pipeline diameter. The tunnel amendment would increase the pipeline diameter for the modified project from 24 inches to 26 inches and internally coat the pipeline to allow increased flow rates. Ocean Express does not propose to increase the certificated capacity (842,000 dekatherms/day). Ocean Express proposes to install a pressure reducing station inside the new tunnel to reduce the onshore Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (MAOP) to 1,480 pounds per square inch gauge (psig) or less from the certificated 2,200 psig. The modifications include an access building at the tunnel shaft at the Dania Beach Boulevard Traffic Circle with a gas vent.

#### **Comment Procedures and Public Meetings**

Any person wishing to comment on the EA may do so. To ensure consideration prior to a Commission decision on the proposal, it is important that we receive your comments before the date specified below. Please carefully follow these instructions to ensure that your comments are received in time and properly recorded:

- Send an original and two copies of your comments to: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First St., NE., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426;
- Reference Docket No. CP02-090-003;
- Label one copy of your comments for the attention of Gas Branch 3, PJ11.3; and
- Mail your comments so that they will be received in Washington, DC on or before March 18, 2005.

Please note that we are continuing to experience delays in mail deliveries from the U.S. Postal Service. As a result, we will include all comments that we receive within a reasonable time frame in our environmental analysis of the project. However, the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing of any comments or interventions to this proceeding. See 18 CFR 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> under the "e-Filing" link and the link to the User's Guide. Before you can file comments you will need to create a free account which can be created online.

The EA has been placed in the public files of the FERC and is available for public inspection at: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Public Reference, 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, (202) 502-8371.

Additional information about the project is available from the Commission's Office of External Affairs, at 1-866-208-FERC or on the FERC Internet Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov>) using the eLibrary link. Click on the eLibrary link, click on "General Search" and enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the Docket Number field. Be sure you have selected an appropriate date range. For assistance with eLibrary, the eLibrary helpline can be reached at 1-866-208-3676, TTY (202) 502-8659 or [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov). The eLibrary link on the FERC Internet website also provides access to the texts of formal documents issued by the Commission, such as orders, notices, and rulemakings.

In addition, the Commission now offers a free service called eSubscription which allows you to keep track of all formal issuances and submittals in specific dockets. This can reduce the amount of time you spend researching proceedings by automatically providing you with notification of these filings, document summaries and direct links to the documents. Go to the eSubscription link on the FERC Internet Web site.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

[Project No. 1951-119]

#### **Georgia Power Company; Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment**

February 16, 2005.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (Commission) regulations (18 CFR part 380), Commission staff have prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes the environmental impacts of allowing Georgia Power Company, licensee for the Sinclair Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 1951), to amend the existing project boundary. The current project boundary at the 350-foot elevation contour would be moved to the 343-foot elevation contour or 25 feet as measured from the reservoir's full pool elevation, whichever is greater. The purpose of this boundary amendment is to remove 3,650 acres of primarily residential lands from the project boundary, which the licensee identifies as being neither for, nor related to, project purposes. Areas necessary for project purposes, such as the project works and recreation sites, would be exempt from the proposed boundary change and remain within the project boundary.

A copy of the EA is attached to a Commission order titled "Order Approving Change in Project Boundary," which was issued on February 15, 2005, and is available for review and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE., Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426. The EA may also be viewed on the Commission's website at <http://www.ferc.gov> using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number (prefaced by P-) and excluding the last three digits, in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll-free at (866) 208-3676, or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

**Magalie R. Salas,**

*Secretary.*

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